



Highlands School News

14 FEBRUARY 2020



Headteacher's News

At Highlands School equal opportunities are central to our ethos and values. We expect all students and staff to challenge and act upon racism, sexism, homophobia and all other forms of prejudice and discrimination, including bullying and harassment.

As part of our strategy to promote equal opportunities and to ensure our school is an inclusive and safe space for all students and staff, this week we have been proudly celebrating LGBT+ History Month. This is one of many whole school awareness days we will be celebrating this year. In October we celebrated Black History Month and in January we marked Holocaust Memorial Day. Later this year we will also be celebrating International Women's Day, Autism Awareness Week and Mental Health Awareness Week. These awareness days are part of an ambitious and exciting new assembly and tutor time programme designed to inspire and teach students the importance of our DARE values and to embed British Values into our curriculum.



As a community school we have a public sector duty to ensure that we have equality objectives and that our school policies and practices adhere to the 2010 Equality Act.

Our Equality Objectives 2019-2021:

- 1) To identify and then actively address gaps in students' academic achievement and participation in extra-curricular activities, in particular: disadvantaged students, students with special educational needs, looked after students and students from different heritage groups.
- 2) To ensure that our curriculum and teaching challenges racism, religious prejudice, homophobia, transphobia and sexism and promotes mutual respect and equality.
- 3) To actively ensure that we engage stakeholders in developing equalities best practice, policy and provision in the workplace so that all staff and students feel represented and included in our school community.

Continued overleaf

LGBT+ History Month was first launched in the UK in 2004 and is now celebrated in many countries across the world. The aims of LGBT+ History Month are to;


- Increase the visibility of LGBT+ people, their history, lives and their experiences
- Raise awareness and advancing education on matters affecting the LGBT+ community
- Work to make educational and other institutions safe spaces for all LGBT+ communities
- Promote the welfare of LGBT+ people, by ensuring that the education system recognises and enables LGBT+ people to achieve their full potential, so they contribute fully to society and lead fulfilled lives, thus benefiting society as a whole
- Challenge misconceptions and stereotypes about LGBT+ people



Unfortunately, homophobic and transphobic bullying across UK schools is still a cause for concern. Too many LGBT+ students are missing education and are experiencing poor mental health because of discrimination from their peers. Ofsted require that all schools can demonstrate how they are pro-actively tackling all forms of bullying and discrimination. Our approach is to educate our students on the importance of respect, equality and inclusion, but we also have a zero tolerance policy on any form bullying or discrimination and students who behave in a discriminatory manner will be sanctioned.



As part of our LGBT+ History Month celebrations this week all Year 8 students participated in a one hour workshop with the education charity Diversity Role Models. The aims of these workshops are to develop awareness in students on the negative impact of homophobic language and to support students in making their own school a safe and inclusive place for everyone. Year 8 students demonstrated excellent behaviour and attitudes during these workshops and made me, their Head of Year and all staff very proud of their positive contribution to Highlands School.




Highlands School

proudly supports LGBT+ History Month


L

Lesbian (women who are attracted to women)




G

Gay (people who are attracted to the same gender)




B


Bisexual (people who are attracted to more than one gender)




T

Transgender (people whose gender identity is not the same as the sex they were assigned at birth)







Heterosexual (men who are attracted to women, and women who are attracted to men)



Non-binary (people whose gender identity isn't either male or female)



Gender fluid (people whose gender identity is not fixed but changes depending on the context and how they are feeling)



Determination • Aspiration • Respect • Equality

We thank all parents for supporting our school values and we wish you all a happy and safe half term.

Mr McInerney



Citizenship Charity Bake Sale

We would just like to thank everyone for their kind contributions to the Citizenship Action 'Bake Sale' for the homeless charity. All proceeds will be going to the 'Salvation Army' in Enfield, London. The total made was: **£136.59!**

Thank you to everyone who also donated to the 'Shoe Box' campaign. These will also be donated locally to the Enfield Salvation Army, who are greatly appreciative for all our contributions and look forward to working in partnership with us again in the future.

Many thanks from myself and all the team!

Best regards

Miss Theodorou

Head Of Citizenship/PSHE





HEADTEACHER AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students:

Farah Redif, Kyrian Keliris,
Orla Tomschak, Elysia Kozinos,
Sophie Gerrish and Selin Turkkorur.

Messages from the School Office

Letters Home: Whole year/whole school letters sent home can usually be located on the 'letters home' page of the school website. Recent letters sent or emailed home include the following:

- 30.1.20 Year 8 Parents' Evening
- 31.1.20 Measles letter



Week B
(Week beginning 24.2.20)

Upcoming Events

Half Term

Monday 17 February - Friday 21 February

Students return to school on

Monday 24 February and follow Week B

Year 10 Parents' Evening
Wednesday 4 March

Holocaust Survivor Talk – Year 8s

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz and the death of Anne Frank, whose diary Year 8 are currently studying. On Monday the 3rd of February, Year 8 had the honour of hearing from Mr Bernd Koschland MBE, a holocaust Survivor.

After meeting with members of the Year 12 A Level History students who had visited Auschwitz in 2019, and Max Bundle from the Year 13 senior leadership team, Mr Koschland spoke for nearly 45 minutes on his experiences of Nazi Germany.

Year 8s were kind, respectful and considerate to Mr Koschland throughout. Demonstrating the D.A.R.E values that are the cornerstone of the school.



Since the talk on Monday, students have been discussing Mr Koschland and the dreams and choices both he and Anne Frank had and forged because of WW2.

It is clear, that the Year 8s took a lot from the talk as indeed Mr Koschland did. Pausing to say as he was leaving, that he wished me to pass on his thanks to both students, teachers and parents at the warm welcome he had received and the wonderful attentive manner he was listened to.

Ms Taylor



Important note from the Safeguarding Team:

Please could you let us know for Safeguarding and Exam purposes, any changes in home circumstances as soon as possible, i.e. phone numbers, addresses or if your child is being temporarily cared for by a friend or relative.
Thank you, Safeguarding Team



Year 10 Community Cooking

This term has seen the launch of Community Cooking, in association with Cooking Champions. An impressive number of Year 10 students applied to volunteer their time after school to prepare hot meals for the homeless charity, The Little Things UK. As well as making a significant contribution to their local community they will also gain their Level 2 Food Hygiene Certificate. Each group of eight students take part in four after school cooking sessions, with one theory session and are invited to The Little Things homeless outreach in Old Street. Our first group sat and passed their exam this week, what a fantastic achievement!

This project will run for the rest of the year, this has been made possible by the generous support of The Felix Project and Paul Wheeler, who supply all the food we use. If you would like to follow our progress, it will be reported on Cooking Champions social media outlets.

Miss Donovan

Dance Festival News

A small group of students from Year 7 and 8 are participating in the Enfield Dance Festival in May. We have started rehearsals for our piece, which is being choreographed in a traditional contemporary jazz style. The students have rehearsed at lunch times and we have a Sunday rehearsal on 1st March. We look forward to letting everyone know about the progress of the dance after half term and the dance is being showcased at the Millfield Theatre at 1:30pm on Thursday 26th March 2020.

Miss Brown



Coronavirus – Advice for all early years providers, schools and further education providers.

The government is closely monitoring the spread of the Coronavirus and is taking action at home and abroad.

The overall risk of Coronavirus to the UK remains moderate. However we understand that people may be concerned where there are children, students or staff returning from or visiting China.

Public Health England and the Foreign Office have issued advice for anyone travelling to the area. This can be found at:

- <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/china>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-and-avian-flu-advice-for-travel-to-china>

Latest information and advice can also be found at:

- <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Advice for parents/guardians

You should not be unduly worried about the possibility of your children catching the Coronavirus. There is no reason why your children should not continue to attend their early years, school or further education setting as normal.

We recognise that some families or children may be planning to travel to China during the forthcoming half term period. If so, please refer to the FCO's latest travel advice via the link above.

What action you can take

A UK wide campaign has been launched to provide clear advice on how to slow the spread of Coronavirus.

Please help to support the campaign which promotes basic hygiene practices, such as regularly washing hands and always sneezing into a tissue, to stem the spread of viruses.

You can do this by:

Displaying this poster in relevant public spaces:



- <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5e35b25740f0b609169cb52a/coronavirus-public-info-poster-2.pdf>

Sharing DHSC content from the following social media links:

- <https://twitter.com/DHSCgovuk/status/1223888531262726144>
- <https://www.facebook.com/DHSCgovuk/videos/194227541968649/>
- https://www.linkedin.com/posts/dhsc_coronavirus-coronavirusoutbreak-coronavirusuk-activity-6629655670331318273-Djpu



Department for Education

HM Government

CORONAVIRUS: PUBLIC INFORMATION

The Government and NHS are well prepared to deal with this virus.

You can help too.

Germs can live on some surfaces for hours. To protect yourself and others:

- Always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.
- Bin the tissue, and to kill the germs, wash your hands with soap and water, or use a sanitiser gel.
- If you have arrived back from China within 14 days follow the specific advice for returning travellers.

This is the best way to slow the spread of almost any germs, including Coronavirus.

[Find out more at gov.uk/coronavirus](https://gov.uk/coronavirus)

As part of the Olympiad challenge, students are meant to read a book recommended by their English Teacher. Each month this year, English Teachers will be recommending a book, which will be displayed on the front desk of the library.

Books recommended for February.

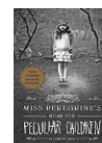
Olympiad



Recommendation for **February**

Mrs Taylor

'Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children'



Mrs Selim

'The Boy at the Back of the Class'



Mrs Charalambous

'A Beautiful Lie'



Random Acts of Kindness

During English lessons, Year 7 have been looking at what kind acts they can carry out.

Why don't you try a 'RAK' today?

Try asking your teacher about their weekend or speaking to a class mate you don't always speak to.

Mrs Selim

Years 7 + 8: 500 Words Competition

There is only one rule for this competition and that's that your story has to be 500 words – not one word over, not one word under!

It can be on any genre or theme of your choice – so get writing!

Parents, please log on to: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p00rfvk1>

to create your own account in order to submit your child's / ward's story!

Good Luck Everyone – Mrs Selim (English)



HIGHLANDS SCHOOL TERM DATES 2020 – 2021

Please note there will be 5 Inset days, these will be updated here as soon as they are available.

AUTUMN TERM

Thursday 3 September 2020 – Friday 18 December 2020

October half term – Monday 26 October 2020 – Friday 30 October 2020

Christmas holidays – Monday 21 December 2020 – Friday 1 January 2021

SPRING TERM

Monday 4 January 2021 - Thursday 1 April 2021

February half term – Monday 15 February 2021 to Friday 19 February 2021

Easter holidays – Friday 2 April 2021 – Friday 16 April 2021

SUMMER TERM

Monday 19 April 2021 – Friday 23 July 2021

May half term – Monday 31 May 2021 – Friday 4 June 2021

Bank holidays: 25 and 28 December 2020, 1 January, 2 and 5 April, 3 and 31 May, 30 August 2021.



PE News

You can get up-to-date information through our Instagram ([pehighlands](#)) and twitter ([highlandspe](#)) accounts.

Year 7 Football

Year 7 ¼ final of the Enfield Cup; Highlands School 5-2 Oasis Hadley. Highlands are now in the semi finals.

Mr Avann

Pinnacle (Facilities Management for Highlands School) are looking to recruit a Caretaker to work 5 days per week. Please see below for full job description and if interested, send your CV to Caretaker.Highlands@pinnaclegroup.co.uk by **Friday, 21st February 2020**.



Caretaker

Location: Highlands High School

Salary: Negotiable

Hours: 40 hours per week

Purpose of Role

The overall aim of the caretaking role is to ensure that the internal and external school facilities are available, fully functional, H&S compliant and aesthetically pleasing where this falls within the remit of the caretaking team.

Duties

- Ensuring security and integrity of the school buildings and grounds through locking and unlocking, patrols, monitoring third party lettings
- Carry out day-to-day duties according to daily schedule i.e. litter picking, sweeping, refreshing toilets
- Carry out defined Planned Preventative Maintenance responsibilities in accordance with each school's schedule and individual's skills
- Carry out initial investigations into reactive requests made during the day relating to deficiencies in accommodation and making temporary or permanent repairs or otherwise notifying management of the need to call in a service provider, in accordance with prescribed procedures and timescales
- Respond to emergency situations such as floods, bodily fluids and implementing temporary or permanent rectification in accordance with prescribed procedures and timescales
- Respond to requests for collection of parcels, movement of furniture, rearrangement of rooms etc. in accordance with prescribed procedures and timescales
- Be observant for Health & Safety issues and ensure that they are rectified or made safe and reported to management
- Where appropriate, provide access, escort and assist service providers on site to undertake remedial work or Planned Prevented Maintenance
- Carry out minor repairs and decoration works
- Participate in cleaning/deep cleaning activities as and when required
- Be proactive by noticing deficiencies in the facilities and either rectifying them, if within capabilities, or bringing the defect to the attention of management
- Any other duties as assigned by management that relate to maintaining the facilities in a clean, functional and aesthetically pleasing state
- Any other duties that the individual is suitably skilled or qualified to undertake
- Any other duties that are specific to the school being worked in i.e. swimming pool maintenance
- Be flexible in shift pattern to cover colleagues' absences due to sickness and annual leave.

Skills Required

- Excellent Communication skills
- The ability to work as part of a team
- The ability to demonstrate initiative
- To be able to demonstrate the behaviours required as outlined in the Living the Values section of the Pinnacle Way booklet.

As this role will involve working in school's confirmation of appointment will be subject to completion of a satisfactory Disclosure Barring Service Check.